

Boxborough Housing Board

Thursday, September 10, 2015

Town Hall, 29 Middle Road

Housing Board Members Present: Al Murphy, Chair, Michael Fetterman, Ron Vogel, Diane Friedman

Invited Attendees: Lauren Abraham, Channing Wagg

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

I. Minutes

Minutes for the August 13, 2015 BHB Meeting approved

II. Informational Items

- A. Al states: "We continue to work on the RFP for the Stow Road project. Susan is currently looking at it."

III. Old Business

- A. We will be asking Community Preservation Act Meeting (CPA) funding for a Boxborough Rental Voucher Program (BVRP) at the September-24 Community Preservation Committee (CPC) meeting. The current plans are to ask about \$17,000 for direct program support, with an additional amount for administrative support.. Lauren Abraham is a town employee working with the Well Being Committee. The Well Being Committee and the Housing Board are asking for this funding together. There are currently about 50 people in Boxborough that could use this assistance. Lauren has identified 9 households that are struggling and could be helped by rental assistance. Al mentioned paying \$250 a month for 6 households. This would be a temporary assistance and the recipients would be given counseling designed to help them become more self-sufficient. Al made a motion to support the BVRP. The motion was seconded by Ron Vogel and it passed unanimously.
- B. We agreed to ask for CPA funding to support the Regional Housing Services collaboration.
- C. Getting involved with Habitat for Humanity - It was decided that asking for CPA funding for a Habitat house was a low-priority item. It was felt that Habitat primarily needed that a suitable parcel be given to them by the Town. The land could be given to them independent of the CPA; the purpose of any money that we might request was unclear.

IV. IV New Business

- A. Master Plan Update. We went thru the Plan Recommendations. Changed the language in "Use CPA funds to develop a down-payment assistance program that could be used in conjunction with LIP/Chapter 40B homeownership projects". Discussed removing 11 lines on the Plan Recommendations from Housing Board list.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Diane Friedman